

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A fixing device for fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;
- a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;
- a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source; and
- a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a first reference temperature based on an elapsed time since a start of image formation and further configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a second reference temperature during a time period after the elapsed time.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): A fixing device for fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;
- a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;
- a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source; and
- a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on a number of recording media on which images are formed since a start of image formation.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): A fixing device for fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;
- a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;
- a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source;

a temperature detecting device configured to detect a local ambient temperature in a vicinity of the fixing member; and

a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the local ambient temperature.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): A fixing device for fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;

a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;

a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;

a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source; and

a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on a difference between a temperature of the fixing member and a temperature of the pressing member.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): A fixing device for fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;

a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;

a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;

a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source;

a temperature detecting device configured to detect a temperature of the pressing member; and

a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the temperature of the pressing member.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A fixing device for fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;

a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;

a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;

a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source;

a temperature estimating device configured to estimate a temperature of the pressing member; and

a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the temperature of the pressing member estimated by the temperature estimating device.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 7, wherein the temperature estimating device is configured to estimate the temperature of the pressing member based on at least one of an elapsed time since a start of image formation, a number of recording media on which images are formed since the start of image formation, a local ambient temperature in a vicinity of the fixing member, and a change of temperature of the fixing member.

Claim 9 (Original): The fixing device according to claim 1, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 3, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 4, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 5, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 6, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 7, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 15 (Original): The fixing device according to claim 1, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 3, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 4, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 5, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 6, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The fixing device according to claim 7, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
an image forming device configured to form an image on a recording medium; and  
a fixing device configured to fix the image formed on the recording medium, the fixing device comprising,

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;

a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;  
a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;  
a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source; and  
a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a first reference temperature based on an elapsed time since a start of image formation and further configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a second reference temperature during a time period after the elapsed time.

Claim 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
an image forming device configured to form an image on a recording medium; and  
a fixing device configured to fix the image formed on the recording medium, the fixing device comprising,

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;  
a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;  
a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;  
a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source; and  
a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on an elapsed time since a start of image formation.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
an image forming device configured to form an image on a recording medium; and  
a fixing device configured to fix the image formed on the recording medium, the fixing device comprising,

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;  
a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;  
a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;  
a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source;

a temperature detecting device configured to detect a local ambient temperature in a vicinity of the fixing member; and

a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the local ambient temperature.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
an image forming device configured to form an image on a recording medium; and  
a fixing device configured to fix the image formed on the recording medium, the fixing device comprising,

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;

a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;

a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;

a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source; and

a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on a difference between a temperature of the fixing member and a temperature of the pressing member.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
an image forming device configured to form an image on a recording medium; and  
a fixing device configured to fix the image formed on the recording medium, the fixing device comprising,

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;

a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;

a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;

a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source;

a temperature detecting device configured to detect a temperature of the pressing member; and

a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the temperature of the pressing member.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
an image forming device configured to form an image on a recording medium; and

a fixing device configured to fix the image formed on the recording medium, the fixing device comprising,

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- a pressing member configured to press-contact the fixing member;
- a heat source configured to heat the fixing member;
- a storage device configured to supply power to the heat source;
- a temperature estimating device configured to estimate a temperature of the pressing member; and
- a control device configured to change an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the temperature of the pressing member estimated by the temperature estimating device.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the temperature estimating device is configured to estimate the temperature of the pressing member based on at least one of an elapsed time since a start of image formation, a number of recording media on which images are formed since the start of image formation, a local ambient temperature in a vicinity of the fixing member, and a change of temperature of the fixing member.

Claim 29 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 31 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the control device is configured to change the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source by shutting off and turning on a supply of power from the storage device to the heat source.

Claim 35 (Original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.



Claim 39 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the storage device is an auxiliary power source configured to be charged by a commercial power supply.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): A method of fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

supplying power to a heat source from a storage device;

heating a fixing member by the heat source;

passing the recording medium having the image through a nip part between the fixing member and a pressing member; [[and]]

changing an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a first reference temperature based on an elapsed time since a start of image formation; and

changing the amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a second reference temperature during a time period after the elapsed time.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): A method of fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

supplying power to a heat source from a storage device;

heating a fixing member by the heat source;

passing the recording medium having the image through a nip part between the fixing member and a pressing member; and

changing an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on a number of recording media on which images are formed since a start of image formation.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): A method of fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

- supplying power to a heat source from a storage device;
- heating a fixing member by the heat source;
- passing the recording medium having the image through a nip part between the fixing member and a pressing member;
- detecting a local ambient temperature in a vicinity of the fixing member; and
- changing an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the local ambient temperature.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): A method of fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

- supplying power to a heat source from a storage device;
- heating a fixing member by the heat source;
- passing the recording medium having the image through a nip part between the fixing member and a pressing member; and
- changing an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on a difference between a temperature of the fixing member and a temperature of the pressing member.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): A method of fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

- supplying power to a heat source from a storage device;
- heating a fixing member by the heat source;
- passing the recording medium having the image through a nip part between the fixing member and a pressing member;
- detecting a temperature of the pressing member; and
- changing an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the temperature of the pressing member.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): A method of fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

- supplying power to a heat source from a storage device;
- heating a fixing member by the heat source;

passing the recording medium having the image through a nip part between the fixing member and a pressing member;

estimating a temperature of the pressing member; and

changing an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the estimated temperature of the pressing member.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): A method of fixing an image formed on a recording medium, comprising:

supplying power to a heat source from a storage device;

heating a fixing member by the heat source;

passing the recording medium having the image through a nip part between the fixing member and a pressing member;

estimating an amount of heat transferred from the fixing member to the pressing member; and

changing an amount of power supplied from the storage device to the heat source based on the estimated amount of heat transferred from the fixing member to the pressing member.

Claim 48 (Original): The method according to claim 41, further comprising, charging the storage device by a commercial power source.

Claim 49 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 42, further comprising, charging the storage device by a commercial power source.

Claim 50 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 43, further comprising, charging the storage device by a commercial power source.

Claim 51 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44, further comprising, charging the storage device by a commercial power source.

Claim 52 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 45, further comprising, charging the storage device by a commercial power source.

Claim 53 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 46, further comprising, charging the storage device by a commercial power source.

Claim 54 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 47, further comprising, charging the storage device by a commercial power source.

Claim 55 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
means for forming an image on a recording medium; and  
means for fixing the image formed on the recording medium, the means for fixing comprising,  
a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;  
means for press-contacting the fixing member;  
means for heating the fixing member;  
means for supplying power to the means for heating; and  
means for controlling an amount of power supplied from the means for supplying power to the means for heating when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a first reference temperature based on an elapsed time since a start of image formation and for changing the amount of power supplied by the means for supplying power to the means for heating when the temperature of the fixing member falls below a second reference temperature during a time period after the elapsed time.

Claim 56 (Cancelled)

Claim 57 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
means for forming an image on a recording medium; and  
means for fixing the image formed on the recording medium, the means for fixing comprising,

a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;  
means for press-contacting the fixing member;  
means for heating the fixing member;  
means for supplying power to the means for heating; and

means for controlling an amount of power supplied from the means for supplying power to the means for heating based on a number of recording media on which images are formed since a start of image formation.

Claim 58 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
means for forming an image on a recording medium; and  
means for fixing the image formed on the recording medium, the means for fixing comprising,

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- means for press-contacting the fixing member;
- means for heating the fixing member;
- means for supplying power to the means for heating;
- means for detecting a local ambient temperature in a vicinity of the fixing member; and

- means for controlling an amount of power supplied from the means for supplying power to the means for heating based on the local ambient temperature.

Claim 59 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
means for forming an image on a recording medium; and  
means for fixing the image formed on the recording medium, the means for fixing comprising,

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- means for press-contacting the fixing member;
- means for heating the fixing member;
- means for supplying power to the means for heating; and
- means for controlling an amount of power supplied from the means for supplying power to the means for heating based on a difference between a temperature of the fixing member and a temperature of the means for press-contacting.

Claim 60 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
means for forming an image on a recording medium; and

means for fixing the image formed on the recording medium, the means for fixing comprising,

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- means for press-contacting the fixing member;
- means for heating the fixing member;
- means for supplying power to the means for heating;
- means for detecting a temperature of the means for press-contacting; and
- means for controlling an amount of power supplied from the means for supplying power to the means for heating based on the temperature of the means for press-contacting.

Claim 61 (Withdrawn): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
means for forming an image on a recording medium; and  
means for fixing the image formed on the recording medium, the means for fixing comprising,

- a fixing member arranged on a recording medium conveying path;
- means for press-contacting the fixing member;
- means for heating the fixing member;
- means for supplying power to the means for heating;
- means for estimating a temperature of the means for press-contacting; and
- means for changing an amount of power supplied from the means for supplying power to the means for heating based on the temperature of the means for press-contacting estimated by the means for estimating.

Claim 62 (Withdrawn): The image forming apparatus according to claim 61, wherein the means for estimating estimates the temperature of the means for press-contacting based on at least one of an elapsed time since a start of image formation, a number of recording media on which images are formed since the start of image formation, a local ambient temperature in a vicinity of the fixing member, and a change of temperature of the fixing member.